# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

January 2, 2008

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, was held in the Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Ken Olson at 6:30 p.m. on January 2, 2008.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Emelie Eaton Doug Poehls

Mark Mace

Gay Easton Chuck Dickerson Alex Wilkins Norm Stamper

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Kate Hart

OTHER STAFF PRESENT: Mary Embleton Kurt Markegard

Sam Painter James Caniglia Bill Sheridan Jan Faught

Mayor Olson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Mayor Olson asked the council to observe a moment of silence.

#### **MINUTES:**

Motion by Council Member Wilkins to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 18, 2007, as presented, seconded by Council Member Stamper. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

### **SWEARING IN OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Mayor Olson conducted the swearing in ceremony for the newly-elected council members: Mark Mace, Norm Stamper, Emelie Eaton, Gay Easton, and Alex Wilkins. Mayor Olson congratulated the council members and thanked them for their service to the City of Laurel.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Newsline: December 2007 Newsletter of the Montana Department of Transportation.

Local Government Center: Information regarding 2008 City Council Workshops.

Laurel Chamber of Commerce: Information regarding 2007 Distinguished Service Awards Banquet.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

### **CONSENT ITEMS:**

- Claims for the month of December 2007 in the amount of \$168,225.80.

  A complete listing of the claims and their amounts is on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.
- Approval of Payroll Register for PPE 12/16/2007 totaling \$132,856.98.
- Receiving the Committee Reports into the Record.
  - --Budget/Finance Committee minutes of December 18, 2007 were presented.
  - -- Council Workshop minutes of December 26, 2007 were presented.

The mayor asked if there was any separation of consent items. There was none.

Council Minutes of January 2, 2008

Motion by Council Member Mace to approve the consent items as presented, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

**CEREMONIAL CALENDAR:** None.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:** None.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (THREE-MINUTE LIMIT):** None.

#### **SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

• Confirmation of Appointments.

Laurel Ambulance Attendant:

Mayor Olson appointed Todd Wren as an Attendant for the Laurel Ambulance Service.

Ambulance Director Jan Faught introduced Todd Wren, who is from Powell and previously worked as an EMT in Glendive.

Motion by Council Member Stamper to approve the appointment of Todd Wren as an Attendant for the Laurel Ambulance Service, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Olson welcomed Todd and thanked him for volunteering for the Laurel Ambulance Service.

• Resolution No. R08-01: A resolution approving a small construction contract between the City of Laurel and Concrete R Us providing for the construction of four (4) ADA compliant sidewalk ramps.

<u>Motion by Council Member Easton</u> to approve Resolution No. R08-01, seconded by Council Member Eaton. There was no public comment.

Council Member Dickerson questioned why some sections of the contract contained strikethroughs. Mayor Olson stated that those sections of the form contract do not apply to the services provided in this particular contract.

A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

• Resolution No. R08-02: A resolution approving an agreement between the City of Laurel and the Laurel School District providing for partial reimbursement to the City for the construction of sidewalk curb ramps.

Motion by Council Member Eaton to approve Resolution No. R08-02, seconded by Council Member Poehls. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS (ONE-MINUTE LIMIT): None.

# **COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

• Review of Monthly Reports: Police, Fire, Ambulance, and Code Enforcement: None.

Council Member Mace asked regarding the agenda for the joint city-county meeting or if there will only be the one agenda item sent in an e-mail. He questioned if the council should attend if that is the only agenda item.

Mayor Olson stated that it is important to attend because some of the same issues addressed are prevalent in our community, although the issues may not address Laurel specifically. There are also opportunities for discussion of pertinent items before and after the meetings.

Council Member Mace stated that his negativity comes from the way it was handled and that it appeared as though they did not really care whether or not Laurel attended.

Mayor Olson thanked him for bringing that up, as he believes that it should be stated in the minutes. Mayor Olson stated that the way in which the agenda was addressed was rather short-sighted. In the past, there was a set time for the meeting and an agenda was sent prior to the meetings, and those two issues should be brought up for discussion at the meeting next Wednesday. The time for the meeting has been changed to 5:30 p.m. He does not believe any malice was intended, but he thinks there was some shortsightedness on someone's part. It should be noted that Laurel took exception and will take exception whenever the City of Laurel is not conferred upon in this manner.

Mayor Olson stated that there are several vacancies on committees and boards, as shown on a list that was distributed to the council. He asked that prospective names be submitted to him or the council secretary by Friday for his review. A list will be prepared for the council's consideration at next week's council workshop. The City-County Planning Board has vacancies for two County reps, for which the city is not responsible. Any suggestions or requests for these vacancies will be forwarded to the County for consideration. Mayor Olson stated that it is difficult when the City-County Planning Board has business to consider but there is not a quorum present at the meetings. Candidates should live outside the city limits but within the city's four and one-half mile jurisdiction.

Council Member Dickerson asked if the size of the City-County Planning Board was increased. He requested that this issue be on the January 8<sup>th</sup> council workshop agenda for further discussion and information.

Mayor Olson stated that the Planning Board has consisted of eleven members for the past ten years. The board has five members from the community, five members from the county, and one memberat-large.

Council Member Dickerson stated that he thought there were eight members and a chairman when he was on the Planning Board in the 1990's.

Mayor Olson explained the following vacancies: one vacancy on the Emergency Services Committee; one vacancy on the Park Board; one vacancy on the Tree Board; two county vacancies on the City-County Planning Board; one vacancy for a city representative (non-voting) on the Big Sky Economic Development Authority; and the ADA Coordinator, which is usually filled by staff.

#### **UNSCHEDULED MATTERS:**

Mary Embleton reminded the council about the workshop for council members on January 10<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the council chambers. She stated that registrations should be faxed to the Local Government Center tomorrow and asked the council members to inform her if they planned to attend.

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Council Member Poehls to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Council Member Dickerson. There was no public comment or council discussion. A vote was taken on the motion. All seven council members present voted aye. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

	Cindy Allen, Secretary
Approved by the Mayor and passed by tho f January, 2008.	ne City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 15 <sup>th</sup> day
Attest:	Kenneth E. Olson, Jr., Mayor
Mary K. Embleton, Clerk-Treasurer	<u> </u>